The Ill Fated

(TRANSLATION OF "BADNASEEB")

MA'EL KHAIRABADI

Translated by
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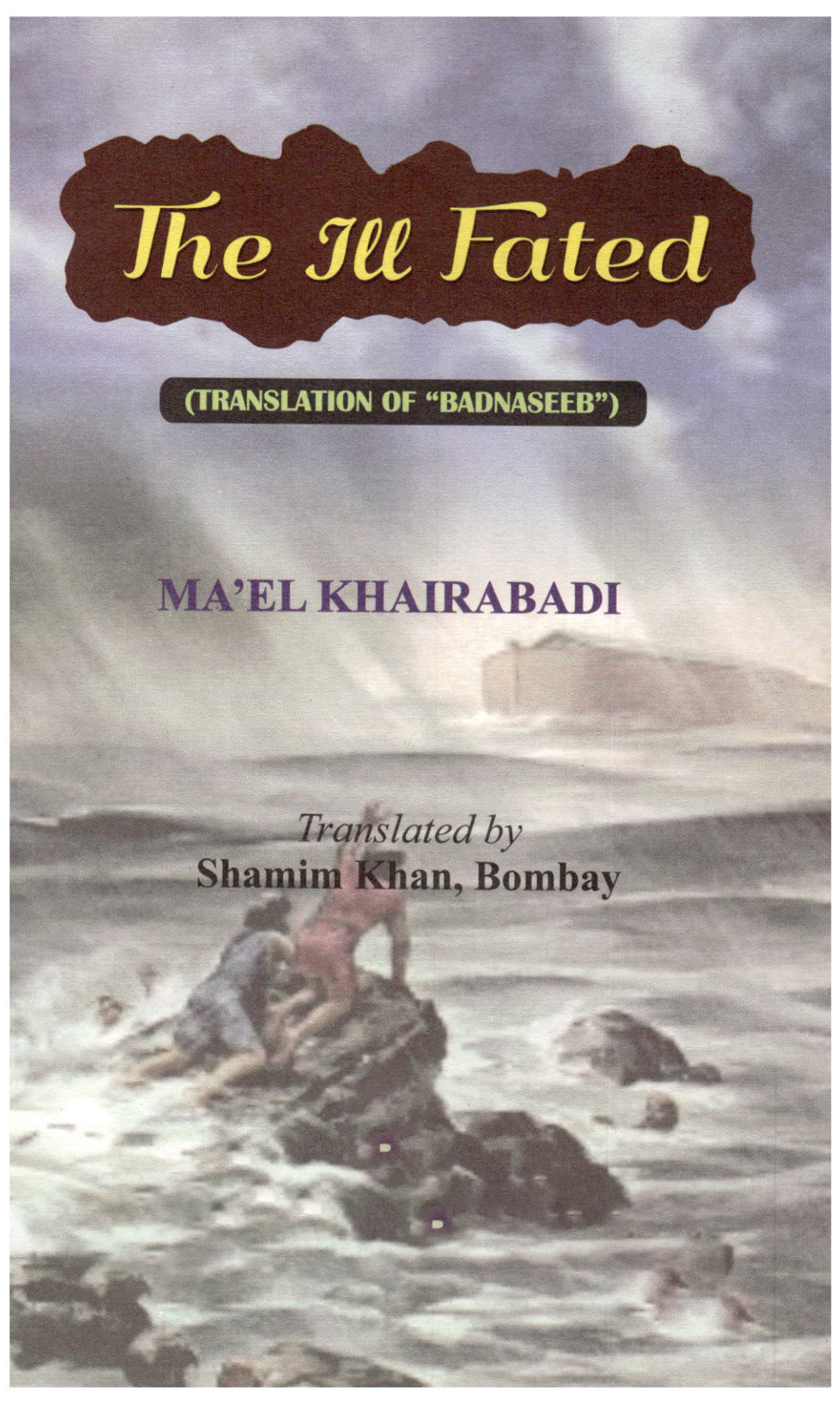
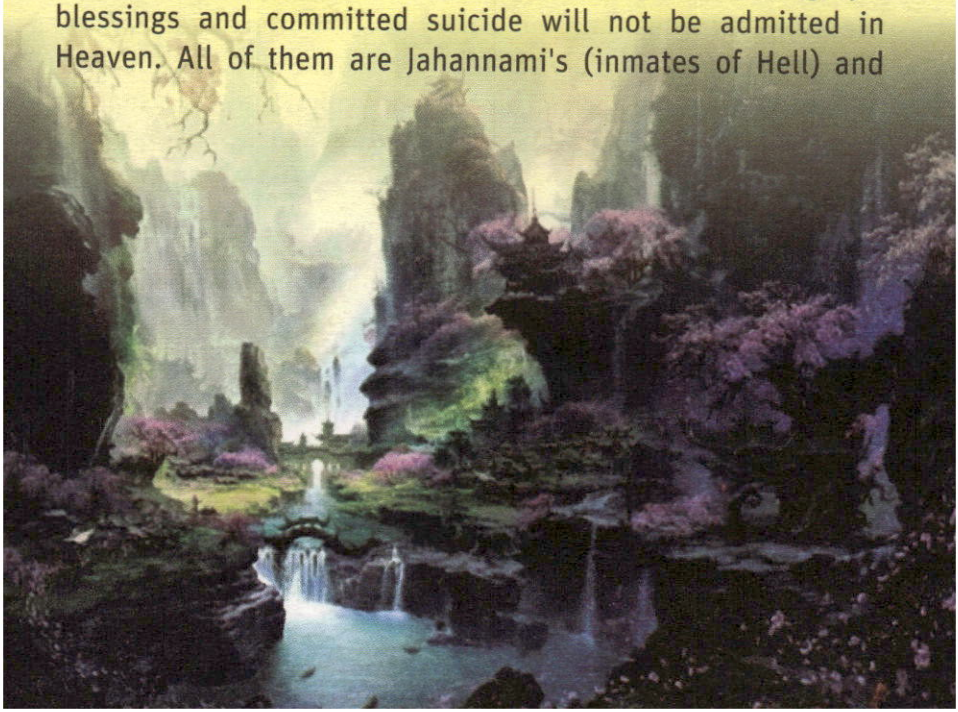
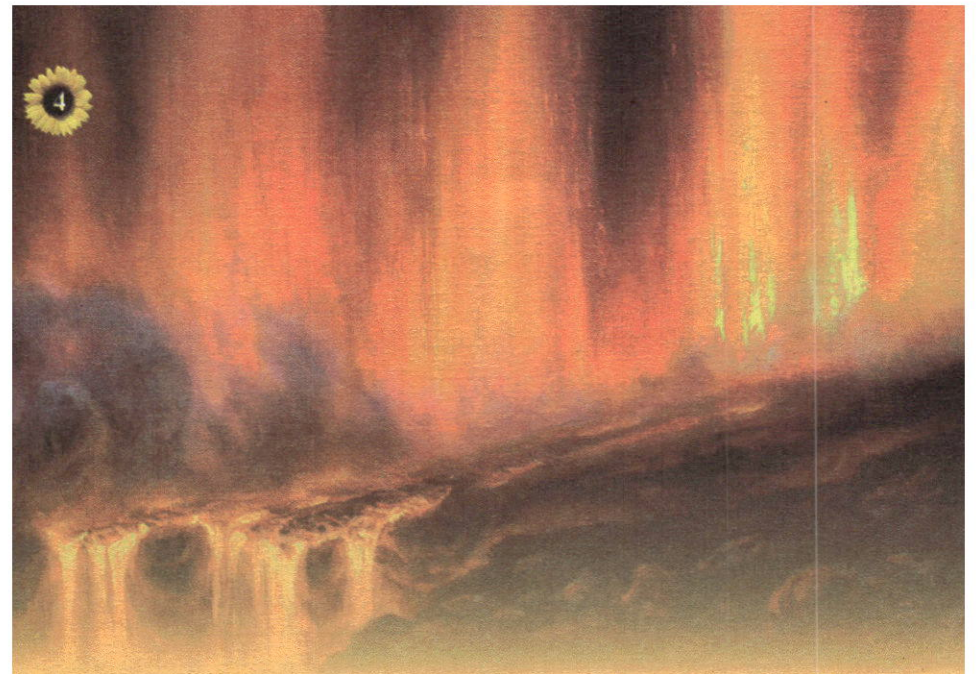


Misfortunate

Misfortunate is he who is deprived of Allah Almighty's blessings. Allah Almighty's blessings are innumerable. The biggest of the blessings is Jannah (Heaven) which can be attained by those who are obedient to Allah Almighty. Allah Almighty's obedient followers are those who have accepted Islam as their religion, lived by its principles and died following it. Those who did not believe in Islam remained as rejecters and mushriqs (those who associate partners with Allah Almighty). Those who accepted Islam but later turned against its principles are the ones who turned murtads and died in that state. Those who accepted Islam on the face but sheltered animosity against it remained munafiqs. There are also those who accepted Islam and followed its principles all their lives but owing to some difficulty spoiled their own lives. Quran and hadiths prove that all these people i.e kaafirs, mushriqs, murtads, munafiqs and those who lost hope in Allah Almighty's blessings and committed suicide will not be admitted in Heaven. All of them are Jahannami's (inmates of Hell) and





will always remain in Jahannam. They are the biggest misfortunates.

We should always fear Allah Almighty and pray to Him that we do not step outside Islam's boundaries and when we die, we remain Muslims so that we are entitled to Allah Almighty's blessings at the time of aakhirah (the Hereafter). Allah Almighty will give a place in Heaven to those who are obedient to Him. We should strive to be away from acts which lead to Jahannam and not be counted among the misfortunates that have been pointed above.

We think it is necessary that the examples of some such infamous misfortunates should be brought before us and their misdeeds should serve as a lesson to us, and which led them to be deprived of Allah Almighty's biggest blessing [Jannah].

Keeping this objective in mind, this collection has been printed. The examples of such misfortunates can be seen even in present times. Reading about them, we will learn to rectify our mistakes and live a righteous life.

Ma'el Khairabadi

Iblis
(Malun-e-Aazam)

Iblis was a highly regarded Jinn (a being, different from mankind). He believed in Allah Almighty and that there is none like Allah Almighty. He was aware of Allah Almighty's wrath and the His stern punishment if we do not follow His orders. Iblis had lived in Heaven and had even spoken to Allah Almighty. Hence it is understood that his belief in Allah Almighty was naturally high. . But it is also true that he is one of the most misfortunate among all the misfortunate beings of this world.

Those who desire to live with their faith and die with their faiths will learn a lesson from the life of Iblis. His story finds a mention at several places in the Quran. Few of them are mentioned below.

One day Allah Almighty planned to create a Human being. That human being was Hazrat Adam (Peace be upon him). Allah Almighty announced to the angels that He would soon be creating a human being out of clay.

Allah Almighty said:
"I will create human being and make him my Khalifah (God's representative) on earth. So when I finish creating, adorning and blowing the soul in him, you will all prostrate before him".

After this Allah Almighty created Adam (Peace be upon him) with clay and ordered everyone to prostrate before Adam. Everyone bowed before him, except Iblis.

Iblis was one of the Jinns, created by fire. He did not prostrate and this angered Allah Almighty and He asked,

"Why did you disobey my command and why did you not prostrate before Adam"?

Allah Almighty was very angry with Iblis. But Iblis out of his arrogance and pride did not bother to ask forgiveness for his disobedience nor did he repent for his mistake. He was jealous that Adam was honoured by Allah and not him. His creation from fire led him to believe that he was superior to Adam and his arrogance had turned him blind that even when he was removed out of Jannah he didn't bother to seek Allah's forgiveness and protection. Hence he was forever kept away from Allah's blessings.

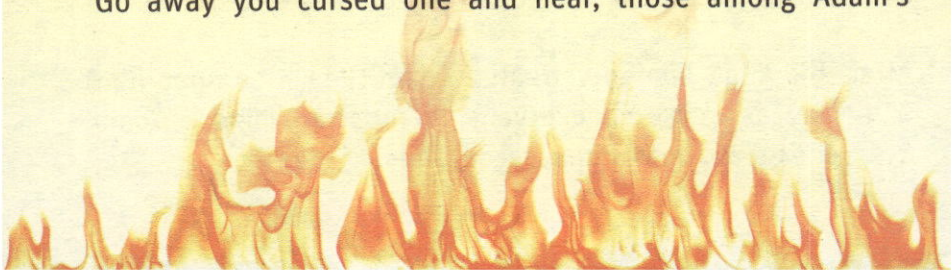
Allah Almighty always favors his followers and loves those who seek his forgiveness. Allah would have definitely forgiven Iblis but arrogance, jealousy and disillusionment had blinded his sense of reasoning.

Instead of seeking Allah's forgiveness, he stubbornly answered Him:

"You wanted to humiliate me, which is the reason you gave this honor to Adam and put a stumbling block in my path. Now, I will shake the roots of the human being whom you have given such honor. I am ruined but I will also ruin him. I will attack his faith from all sides. You will see how I will drive him away from your path. Very few human beings will escape my trap."

Iblis's answer made Allah Almighty command,

"Go away you cursed one and hear, those among Adam's



children who will follow your commands will be your companions, and I will fill Jahannam (hell) with them. But remember, that you will not be able to destroy the faith of those devoted to me."

Iblis was considered the 'cursed' one and was also told about his punishment. He was also told that whoever follows him will be considered as his companion and will find a place in Jahannam. Astagfirullah (May Allah forgive us).

Moral

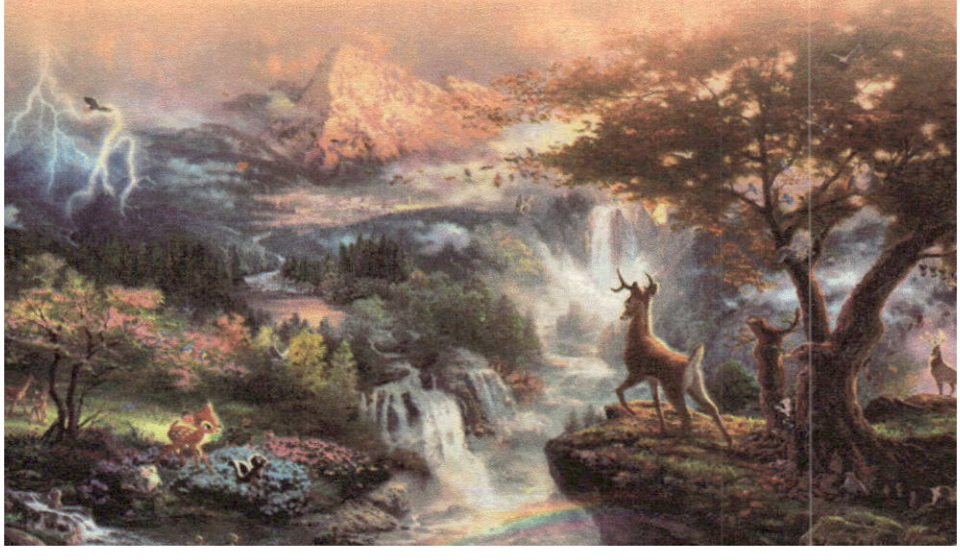
When we read about this episode in the Holy Quran, we learn a valuable lesson, that

- However high in life we get, or attain an elevated position in our faith, we have to remain modest and humble.
- We must avoid pride and keep praying to keep our faith intact. We do not know what will happen the next moment.
- Also, however big a sin we may have committed, we must never lose hope in Allah who is often forgiving. Allah can forgive the biggest of sins, the only condition being that we do not leave the side of Allah and should always do Istegfaar (seek forgiveness).
- Iblis challenged that he will divert mankind from Allah's Path and hence most of the people wrong themselves by worshiping others besides Allah, associating partners with Allah, and doing evil deeds under the influence of Iblis's temptation.
- But those who are sincere believers; they fight Ibis's temptations and follow only Allah's guidelines.

Kaabil

Hazrat Adam (Peace be upon him) and Hazrat Hawwa (Peace be upon her) were the first human beings created by Allah. They were sent to the earth on His command. They were blessed with many children. All human beings are their descendants. Allah ta'ala made Adam (Peace be upon him) His prophet too i.e He gave him responsibilities to guide his children to the right path, teach them the correct methods of His worship and more importantly warn them against the biggest enemy of mankind "Shaitaan"(Iblis) who wants to divert mankind from following Allah's instructions and worshipping Him alone.

Adam (Peace be upon him) was instructed by Allah to warn his children that they would have to protect themselves against Iblis (Shaitaan). If they forget their real master i.e Allah and fall into shaitaan's trap, it will lead to mischief on earth.. There will be fights and immorality everywhere and they will have to bear the sufferings in their life after death (aakhirah). Whereas those who worship Allah alone and do good acts will be gifted with Jannah (Heaven), which is a beautiful place with all wonderful gifts.



Hazrat Adam (Peace be upon him) fulfilled his responsibilities in an able manner. He proved himself to be Allah's obedient servant by passing on every instruction that he received from the Almighty. At that time, Hazrat Adam (Peace be upon him) and his children lived in their own, small world, where they were receiving a good upbringing. The children too were learning from their parents.

But not all of his children were pious and obedient. To be pious and obedient you need to develop some qualities in you. Those who remember Allah Almighty, fear Allah's punishment for bad acts, try to learn good things, follow them in their life are the one's whom Allah Almighty gives right guidance and protects them from Shaitaan.

Those who do not remember Allah Almighty, do not fear His punishment, do not bother about what instructions Allah Almighty has given them or do not want to follow them intentionally and remain pleased with whatever right or wrong they are doing, are not blessed by Allah Almighty. Such people become distant from Allah and closer to shaitaan and follow shaitaan's instructions which are pleasing and entertaining to them.

They find freedom in obeying Shaitaan because they find it easy to fulfill all their desires by following him. Such people finally fall in a pit called Jahannam (Hell) which is full of burning fire and are punished harshly. Hence such people are called misfortunate.

Let's take the example of Kaabil.

Kaabil was the son of Hazrat Adam (Peace be upon him) and Hazrat Hawwa (Peace be upon her). He was born and brought up in a pure and pious family in the loving care and right teachings of his pious parents. But as he grew up he fell into the trap of shaitaan, he forgot Allah Almighty and had no fear for aakhirah (life after death where we will be judged for our acts in this world).

Those who wish to live with their faith and die with their faith intact will find many lessons from the story of Kaabil. This story is mentioned in the Quran and also in the Bible.

Now let's read his story how he was deprived from Allah Almighty's blessings.

Haabil and Kaabil were brothers. Once there was a competition between the two brothers. Their father Hazrat Adam (Peace be upon him) told them, "You both present a gift to Allah Almighty. The one whose gift is accepted by Allah Almighty will be declared the winner."

Both followed their father's orders but Kaabil brought some useless food grains as a present while Haabil brought from his herd of sheep the finest sheep as his offering.

Allah Almighty who is the knower of hidden and unseen things was well aware of Kaabil's intentions behind presenting a useless gift. He knew that if Kaabil loved and feared Him he would have presented better gift to please Him. But his useless gift proved that Kaabil had no fear of Allah Almighty. So Allah accepted Haabil's gift who presented finest gift to please Allah Almighty. Thus Adam (Peace be upon him) declared Haabil as the winner.

After hearing this decision Kaabil's heart burnt in jealousy. Since he had no fear of Allah Almighty, shaitaan took the opportunity to misguide him.

He was filled with anger and warned Haabil that he would kill him. Haabil, who had the fear of Allah Almighty tried to make him see reason and said, "Brother, this is Allah Almighty's decision and if we do not accept it, we will be disobeying Him. Oh my brother, Allah Almighty listens to those who fear disobeying him and do such deeds that please him.

Allah Almighty has accepted the gift of the one who was just. What is the point in getting angry? Even after this, if you try to fight or kill me, I will try to defend myself, but will never try to kill you. But by attacking me, you will not only take the burden of your own sins but my sins too on yourself. This will lead you to Jahannam, which has been created to punish those who sin."I fear Allah Almighty who is the master of the whole universe.

Kaabil was full of anger and ashamed about his loss. He did not listen to Haabil's

advice and killed him when he got an opportunity.

After killing his brother, he was worried as he did not know where to hide his dead body. Till then, there was no death among Adam's children and hence no one knew about the burial procedure. Kaabil was thinking hard when suddenly, he saw a crow digging the ground. The crow then put the body of another dead crow in the pit and covered it with the mud. Seeing this, Kaabil felt relieved that he got a way to get rid of the body.

In doing all this he felt no guilt in disobeying Allah Almighty and killing an innocent man. As a result, he became distant from Allah Almighty's blessings and died without seeking His forgiveness.

"INNA LILLAHI WA INNA ILAYHI RAJIOON"
"TO ALLAH WE BELONG AND TO HIM WE SHALL RETURN."

This dua is from Quran Surah Al Baqarah chapter 2 verse 156
Misfortunate Kaabil's life came to an end.

"Rasulallah (peace be upon him) said in a hadith that in this world, whenever someone is murdered owing to cruelty, the blame of it goes to Kaabil. The reason being, that he was the first man who set an example of murder owing to cruelty."

This Hadith [saying of Prophet Muhammed (Peace be upon him)] is from Masnad Ahmed-a book of collection of Hadiths.

Moral

- Always fear disobeying Allah Almighty and keep yourself away from deeds that will distant you from Allah Almighty.
- Jealousy and Anger are few of the many bad qualities of shaitaan.
- To retain your faith, always seek Allah Almighty's blessings, for we do not know when our heart and mind will be distracted the next moment.
- Dua for Safeguarding our faith:

"RABBANA LA TUZIGH QULOOBANA BA'DA IDH HADAYTANA WA HAB LANA MILLADUNKA RAHMAH INNAKA ANTAL WAHHAB"

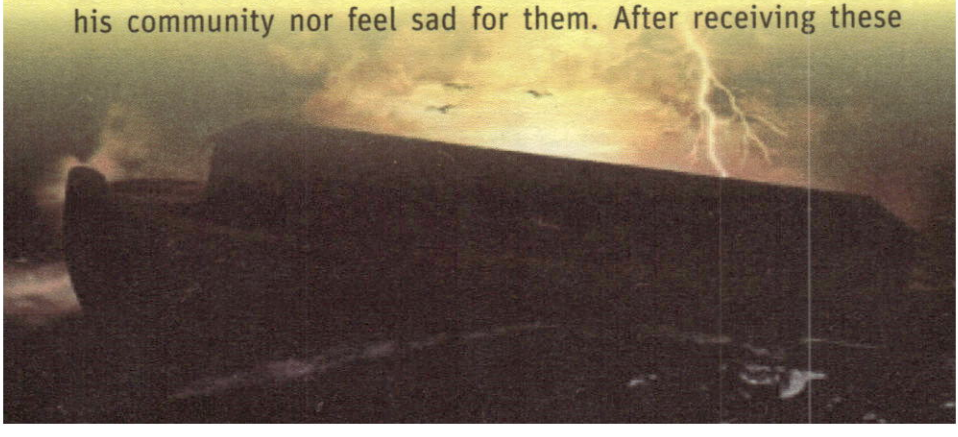
"OUR LORD! (THEY SAY), LET NOT OUR HEARTS DEVIATE NOW AFTER YOU HAVE GUIDED US, BUT GRANT US MERCY FROM YOUR OWN PRESENCE; FOR YOU ARE THE GRANTOR OF BOUNTIES WITHOUT MEASURE"

This dua is from Quran Surah Aale Imran chapter 3 verse 8

Kanan
[A Prophet's Misfortunate Son]

Kanaan is that ill fated who despite being the son of a great Prophet remained deprived of Allah Almighty's blessings. The Quran mentions his story in such a manner that teaches us a valuable lesson. His story proves that Allah Almighty is not pleased with someone just because, he is the son of a Prophet, or has a prestigious family background or is related to someone who is dedicated to Allah Almighty. He is pleased with those who are in agreement with His orders, fear disobeying Him and are forever doing good deeds.

Kanaan was the son of a great Prophet, Noah (peace be upon him). Hazrat Noah (peace be upon him) is that Prophet of Allah Almighty who taught people to worship only one Almighty God - Allah and follow Allah's orders. He taught people this same message for nine hundred and fifty years, but only a handful of people listened to him, accepted this teaching and became Muslims. The remaining made fun of him and troubled him, his own son being one of them. After nine hundred and fifty years of perseverance, when things did not improve, Allah Almighty commanded Prophet Noah (peace be upon him) to make an Ark as per His directions. He also told him that He would destroy all unfaithful people from his community. So he should not favour his community nor feel sad for them. After receiving these



commands, Prophet Noah (peace be upon him) took the help of a few companions to build the Ark. Kanaan and his companions would laugh at them and say, "Will you sail this Ark on dry land?

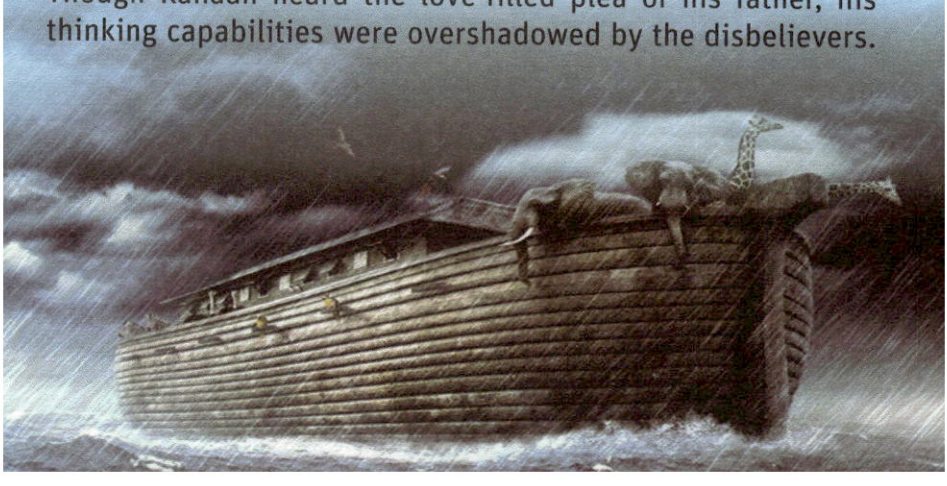
Hazrat Noah (peace be upon him) would reply, "You won't laugh for long. Very soon, a time will come when you will cry for your misdeeds and there will be none who will hear you."

Finally, the day which was promised to him arrived, the water in the oceans swelled up. Allah Almighty commanded Hazrat Noah (peace be upon him) to take a pair of every animal with him in the Ark. He also instructed him to take with him his family as well as those who had brought faith in Islam.

Hazrat Noah (peace be upon him) obeyed His commands. But his wife Kaafira had become a part of the disbelievers as Kanaan encouraged his mother.

Then it started to rain heavily. The heavy downpour began causing destruction. The rivers began to flood. Slowly, everything began to drown. Hazrat Noah's Ark was floating in the water. When he saw his son with the disbelievers, his fatherly love surfaced and he told Kanaan, "Son, leave these tormentors side, heed to Allah's commands and come in our Ark."

Though Kanaan heard the love-filled plea of his father, his thinking capabilities were overshadowed by the disbelievers.



Even though, he could see the terrible storm with his eyes, he turned down his father's request by saying, "I will climb the mountains and save myself." Hazrat Noah (peace be upon him) tried persuading him by saying, "Today, only those will be saved from drowning, whom Allah wills."

As this conversation between the father and son continued, a gigantic wave suddenly took Kanaan along with it and in no time, he drowned. On seeing the sad plight of his son, Hazrat Noah (peace be upon him) was overcome with grief. He complained to the Almighty, "Oh Allah, my son has drowned, although you promised me that you will safeguard my family."

To this, Allah replied, "When was he a part of your family? He was a companion of the disbelievers and committed several sins. If you do not understand this, then why do you come to me with this plea?"

Hazrat Noah (peace be upon him) realized his mistake on hearing these words of the Almighty. He immediately apologized and understood that one has to pay for his deeds, even if he is the son of a Prophet.

The misfortunate Kanaan drowned and was also declared as a Jahannami (a dweller of Hell). Being punished with Jahannam as one's destiny after death is the biggest misfortune of all.

Hazrat Noah's (peace be upon him) misfortunate son Kanaan's story came to an end. It reminds us the words of our beloved last Prophet of Allah Almighty Mohammed's (peace and blessings be upon him) words that he once told the 'Quraish' tribe, his family 'Bani abd munaf' and to his close family members.

"Oh! The people of Quraish. Worry about protecting yourself from the tortures of Jahannam. I cannot save you from Allah's wrath at all. Oh! Abd Munaf's family, I cannot save you from Allah's wrath. Oh! Abbas bin Abdul Muttalib (the prophet's

uncle), I cannot save you from the wrath of Allah at all. Oh! Safiya, (the prophet's paternal aunt) I cannot save you from the wrath of Allah at all. Oh, my beloved daughter (Fatima Zahra), I will give you all the riches you ask for, but I cannot save you from the wrath of Allah at all."

This implies that one should think about safeguarding oneself. Only your faith and practicing the guidelines laid down by Islam will come to your rescue from Jahannam.

Moral

- Though Kanaan was the son of the honorable and (Allah Almighty's) trusted prophet, he was not spared from punishment for his misdeeds.
- Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) too warned his close family members to take care of their own faith and mend their ways to save themselves from hell fire. His relation with them would not benefit them in any way if they disobey Allah.
- Similarly we cannot save ourselves from the torments of hell by giving excuse of any pious man's favour or prestigious family background or relation to someone who is devoted to Allah Almighty.
- We should come forward to study and understand our religion and keep praying to Allah Almighty to keep us steadfast in our faith as long as we live, and remain in the company of faithful companions. Oh Allah, Let

  "La ilaha illallah Muhammad ur Rasulallah "(there is none worthy of worship besides Allah and Mohammad (peace be upon him) is Allah's Prophet be on my lips till my last breath.

Saamri
[The Wicked Character]

Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon him) was one of Allah Almighty's honourable Prophet. Allah Almighty had sent him to guide the people of Misr, a place where the Prophet lived with his family (Bani Israel -children of Israel) and also the community of Karti. Majority of the population was of Kaliyon who also ruled there. Their king was Pharaoh, who owing to his power brought the minority community of Bani Israel under his slavery. Due to the hardships of long term slavery, the people's faith in Allah Almighty had decreased and their characters had become weak. Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon him) had to face many challenges, like carrying out Allah Almighty job of spreading Islam in the Misr community, facing the powerful king Pharaoh and trying to develop moral values in his community, the Bani Israel.

His efforts yielded some positive changes among the Bani Israel community. With his encouragement and promotion, some people accepted Islam. Pharaoh who wanted to rule the people under his command got annoyed with this revolution happening in his kingdom. He became a sworn enemy of Moosa (peace be upon him). As a result, on the command of Allah Almighty, the Prophet left Israel towards Misr with nine Muslims. When Pharaoh learnt about this, he immediately followed him with his army and reached a huge sea near Israel. But with Allah's Almighty grace and mercy, the Prophet and his people reached safely on the other side of the sea while Pharaoh and his army got drowned into the deep waters.

Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon him) migrated to Misr and lived there. Among his people, there was a man named Saamri. He was a newly converted Muslim, but he had not understood the essence of Islam. In Misr, the ritual of worshipping the cow was very popular. Saamri too was greatly inspired by this ritual. This belief incurred Allah Almighty's wrath on him, a punishment that could send shivers down your spine and of course, Jahannam was his destiny after death. The painful episode of his life gives us many lessons.

Once Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon him) left Misr and went to Koh-e-toor(mountain of toor) for some time. While leaving, he made his brother Haroon (peace be upon him) his substitute to handle the work in his absence. After Moosa (peace be upon him) left, a mischief struck in Saamri's mind. He collected gold and silver from people around him. He then melted it to give it the shape of a calf. It was hollow from inside. Saamri made holes into the idol in such a manner that if there was air pressure inside the idol, it would come out with a sound that resembled the mooing of a cow.

The people of Israel saw this strange episode and were shocked. The fear of this calf spread and was overwhelming on everyone. Now, Saamri misused this fear. He said, "Why are you so surprised? Do you know what this is? It is your God and even the God of Moosa?"

People with weak faith became victims to this superstition. Believing that the calf is their God, they began worshipping it. When Hazrat Haroon (peace be upon him) saw this, he tried telling people not to be naive. He said,

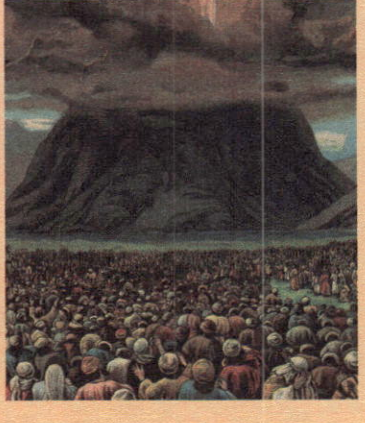
"That calf is a devilish imagination planted in your minds. It is a test of your faith towards Allah Almighty, how can it be your God? God is the one who saved you from the clutches of Pharaoh's slavery, and caused destruction to your enemies. Listen to me and do not worship the calf?" People did not heed to Haroon (peace be upon him). They said,

"Until Moosa (peace be upon him) returns, we will worship the calf. When he comes, we will see what can be done."

When Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon him) learnt about this misdeed of his people at Koh-e-Toor, he was upset. In a frightened state, he immediately left towards his community. When he reached his destination, he saw several people engaged in idolatry. He asked them,

"What did you do? Have you forgotten the favors that Allah Almighty has done for you and the promises made by Him to you. Yet, in just a few days, you have started indulging in practices that oppose our faith."

People said, "No, we haven't forgotten the promises. But, Saamri took away our gold and silver jewellery and made an idol after melting it. He called it God, so we started worshipping it."



Now, Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon him) inquired with his brother about the entire episode. He scolded him too, "I had made you

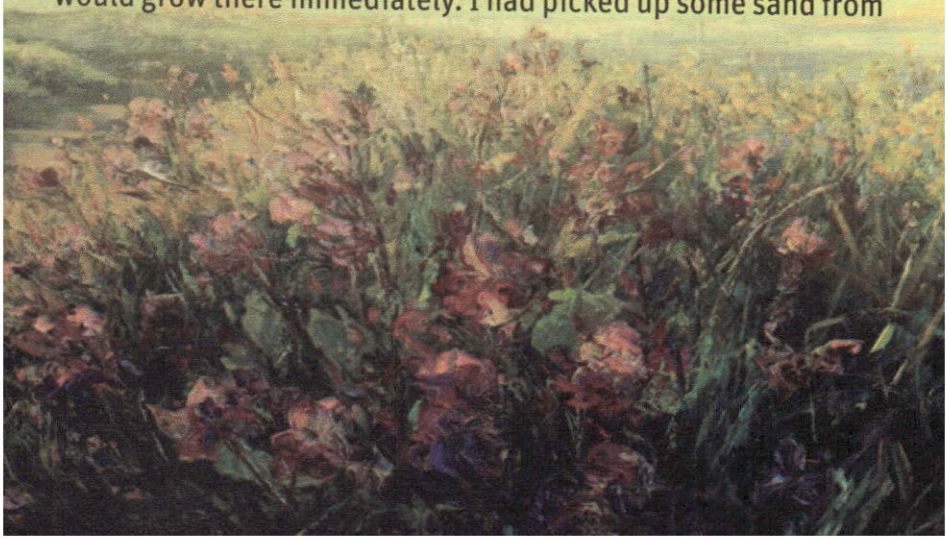
my substitute. It was your responsibility to stop this shirk (associating partners with Allah) from happening".

Haroon (peace be upon him) replied, "I tried convincing them not to indulge in these practices. But their senses have been ruined to such an extent that they did not heed to my requests. In fact, they even wanted to kill me. I was not bothered about my life. But I was worried that when you returned, you would think that I had started dividing the people of Bani Israel. Owing to this fear, I did not take any stringent action."

Hazrat Haroon (peace be upon him) was right in a way. Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon him) turned towards Saamri and asked him,
"Yes! Hazrat. What were you thinking?"

Seeing Moosa's (peace be upon him) temper, Saamri immediately realized that all that happened was not correct.

To cover up his misdeed, he immediately made up a story. He said, "I had seen a thing that no one else had seen when Pharaoh was coming to attack us with his army. I had seen Hazrat Jibreel (peace be upon him) (Allah's angel) walking ahead of us. Wherever, his horse's footsteps would fall, grass would grow there immediately. I had picked up some sand from



the footmarks of that horse and sprinkled it on the idol after making it. And lo, life came into it and it started speaking."

Saamri's lies are similar to the self-professed saints who mislead naive people with their lies and rob them. Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon him) had understood Saamri's mischief and thus announced his judgement, that

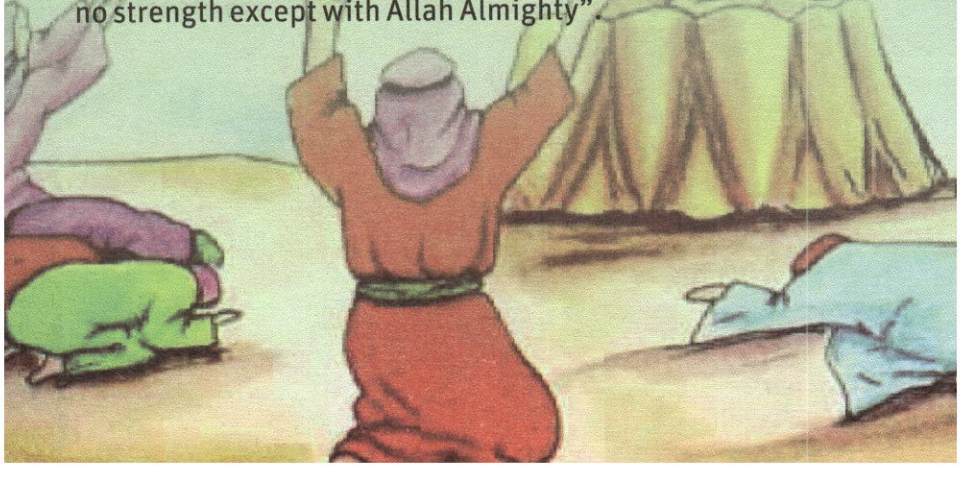
"No one would keep any kind of relation with this hopeless character".

He wanted people to see for themselves that Saamri was a selfish and wicked human being who would suffer for his deeds in his aakhirah(life after death), and this could not be altered in any way. After giving the judgement, he told Saamri,

"Now, you see what I do to the God that you pretend to worship. It will be blown in front of you and its ashes will flow into the river."

After this, he explained to the community of Bani Israel,

"Brothers, your master and Lord is none other than the one who is worthy of worship and that is only Allah Almighty. He is the all-knowing. Ponder, if these antics and drama is worthy of your attention? What is this calf? There is no greatness in it. It cannot bring gain or loss to anyone. We can burn it right now and turn it into ashes. Forgive me, but can an Almighty be like this? 'LA HAWLA WALA QUWATAH ILLAH BILLAH (there is no power and no strength except with Allah Almighty".



Saying this, on Allah's Almighty command, all those people who had indulged in the calf worship were killed. Saamri was let go. But in just a few days, Hazrat Moosa's (peace be upon him) curse had the effect of making him a patient suffering from acute leprosy. He was found shielding himself from people saying, "Do not touch me, and do not touch me." For a long period, Saamri remained an example that taught a valuable lesson to everyone in Israel. The misfortunate was cursed with a severe punishment in his lifetime, and after his death, most certainly Jahannam is his destiny.

Moral

- Allah Almighty favoured the Bani Israel and saved them from slavery of Pharaoh.
- But Saamri and his people forgot Allah Almighty's blessings and turned to their old ways of worshipping cow and idols.
- Allah Almighty does not forgive idol worshippers and those who associate partners with him.
- We should always save ourselves from such sins and if we had committed such a sin in our life we should instantly ask forgiveness from Allah Almighty and never repeat it in our life.

If we die committing shirk we shall be dwellers of hell forever. Let us pray that:

Allah Almighty protects us from such an end and gives us the understanding to remain steadfast in our faith. Also pray to Allah Almighty that we practise all the guidelines prescribed by AllahAlmighty and protect us from rituals that endanger our faith. Aameen.

Kaaroon
[A Wealthy Man of Bani Israil]

Kaaroon Bani was an inhabitant of Israel. It is said that he was the paternal cousin (father's brother's son) of Moosa (peace be upon him). Kaaroon had great love for collecting lots of wealth. To make more money, he would adopt all legal and illegal tactics. He was not bothered if these tactics brought shame to his community or not.

He was living in Misr with the Bani community. At that time, Pharaoh was the ruler. Kaaroon's reach extended to the kingdom, infact, he was like a puppet in the hands of Pharaoh. The Bani Israel community was under Pharaoh's slavery. Kaaroon kept an eye on the activities of these slaves. If he learnt of any plans among the slaves to get away from Pharaoh's clutches, he would immediately inform the authorities about it. He was heavily rewarded by the king for his treachery towards his own people.

Allah Almighty sent Moosa (peace be upon him) to Misr as his prophet. He commanded Moosa (peace be upon him) to help Bani Israel to attain freedom from the slavery and also warn Pharaoh that no man can claim to be God and rule over another man. At that time, in order to support Pharaoh and destroy Bani Israel, Kaaroon played a very vicious part. He would sit with the people of Bani Israel, listen to their freedom plans and the speeches made by Moosa (peace be upon him) to the community. Kaaroon would then immediately inform the king about it. Obviously, this trait had made him a favourite of Pharoah and he would be rewarded with bags of wealth, which he would add to his vast treasury.

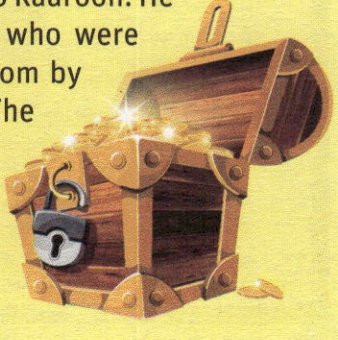
In the Quran too, Kaaroon's capitalist mentality has been mentioned in complete detail. This greed for wealth was the reason for his destruction in this life and in the aakhirah. In the Quran-e-kareem, Kaaroon's state has been mentioned in a manner that will give us enough lessons. It is as follows: Allah says,

"Indeed, Pharaoh was from Moosa's community but he (Kaaroon) betrayed them (Moosa's(peace be upon him) community i.e Bani Israel) and I gave him so much treasure that carrying its keys would seem like a burden to a strong man. The people from his community said to him, "Don't boast and don't show arrogance. Allah Almighty does not like people who boast. And whatever Allah Almighty has given you, use from it to improve your aakhirah. Do not forget that Allah Almighty has bestowed his favours on you. In the same way, you favour Allah Almighty's people and don't create unrest. Allah Almighty does not like people who create unrest."

To this, Kaaroon said "I have got all this wealth with my knowledge and skill.

Did he not know that Allah Almighty has destroyed clans that were wealthier and more powerful than him?

Then one day (filled with arrogance) Kaaroon decked in complete finery and accompanied by his slaves went to meet his clan. The Bani Israel people who aspired for worldly prosperity looked at him and said, "How we wish that we also had all that which was given to Kaaroon. He is surely very fortunate." But those who were bestowed with intelligence and wisdom by Allah Almighty said, "We pity you. The one who brought faith in Allah Almighty and did good deeds is bestowed with Allah Almighty's blessings and that is attained only by those who practice patience."



Consequently Allah Almighty destroyed him and his people in his dwelling place underground. No community came to his aid, that could save him from Allah Almighty's wrath and he remained helpless. Then, those who praised his wealth and prosperity and hoped to become like him, said "Oh, shame on us! It was our mistake. It is Allah Almighty's will to bestow prosperity amongst his people on whom he wants (and how much he wants) and deprive him of it. If Allah Almighty had not favoured us, then for our mistakes, he would have sunk us too. Misdeeds are misleading. Rejecters of faith never prosper."

The house of aakhirah is made by Allah Almighty for those who walk on earth without pride and do not have the intent of creating unrest. In the end, good will happen to those people who fear disobeying Allah.

It is in Surah Qasas verse 76-83 of the Holy Quran where the destruction of Kaaroon is mentioned very clearly.

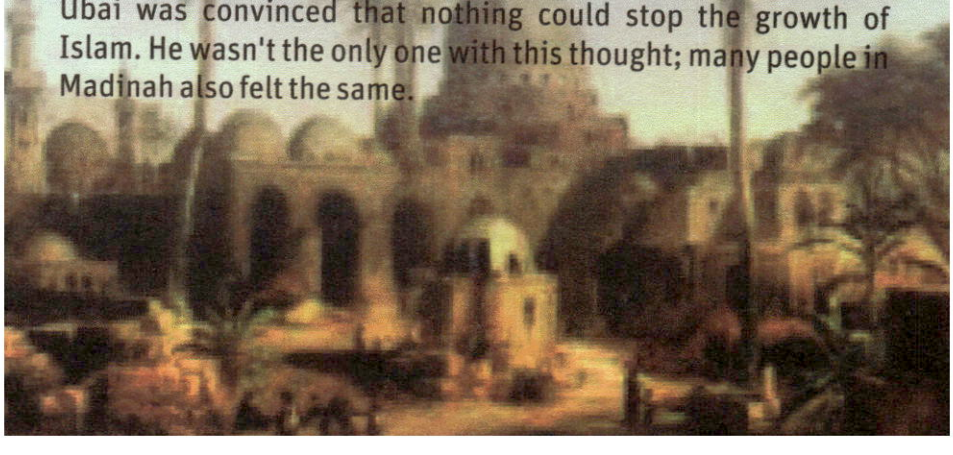
Moral

- When Allah Almighty blesses us with his infinite grace and blessings and gives us prosperity, it is our duty to thank him and help his poor people.
- If Allah Almighty gives us lesser wealth, we must still be His thankful believers.
- In no circumstance, should we forget Allah Almighty and never utter anything with our tongue that would imply our ungratefulness.
- We must always pray for patience whatever our condition.
- We should be supporters of those who believe in Allah Almighty and do good deeds and not the supporters of those who intend to destroy the believers.

Abdullah Ibn Ubai
(Raeesul Munafiqin=The Leader of the Munafiqs)

The man whose salah during the funeral was read by Prophet (peace be upon him) and the clothing for the dead (kafan) was given by the Prophet (peace be upon him) himself, will be called fortunate, isn't it? But, the truth is that there has been a misfortunate who got both these honours but he still remained a Jahannami (one who goes to hell). He was Abdullah Ibn Ubai. He was the leader of the Munafiq Muslims (Those who accepted Islam on the face but harboured animosity against it) of Madinah and was also extremely rich.

Abdullah Ibn Ubai was a very influential man of Madinah. Before the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) migrated from Makkah to Madinah, there was news that Abdullah Ibn Ubai was to be pronounced the King, but with the entry of Prophet Mohammed (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) in Madinah, this did not happen. In Madinah, Islam was the dominant religion; Abdullah Ibn Ubai's desire to become the king remained unfulfilled. Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) and Islam thus became his headache. In addition to that, when Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) won the battle of Badr, in which several eminent personalities of Quraish-e-Makkah (a community in Makkah) were killed, Abdullah Ibn Ubai was convinced that nothing could stop the growth of Islam. He wasn't the only one with this thought; many people in Madinah also felt the same.



The quality of a munafiq is that he is a coward. He will say one thing owing to fear but will mean something else in his heart. They are like the people in Madinah who were angry with the spread of Islam in their country but could not say anything against it. After the battle of Badr, many such cowards reluctantly turned Muslims. But whenever they got an opportunity to work against Islam and bring down those working towards its promotion, they did it. The leader of all these Munafiqeens was Abdullah Ibn Ubai.

After the battle of Badr, he announced that he had become a Muslim, but in reality he was still a rejector of faith.

During the battle of Badr, the Quraish wrote a letter to Abdullah Ibn Ubai, "You have given protection to our people.
We promise you that if you don't kill them or remove them from Madinah, we will all come together and attack you and make your women our slaves."

When Mohammad (peace be upon him) learnt the contents of this letter, he went to Abdullah Ibn Ubai and asked him if he was ready to fight his own brothers and sons. Since many people from Madinah had turned Muslims, Abdullah understood what Muhammad (peace be upon him) meant and hence could not do what was commanded to him in the letter.

Abdullah Ibn Ubai was not only hand in glove with the Quraish of Makkah but was also conspiring with the enemies of Islam around. He would instigate them to fight against the Muslims.

Once he sent a message to the popular clan—Banu Nazir of the Yahudis. These people had strong forts and were ready to sign an agreement with Muhammed (peace be upon him).

Abdullah Ibn Ubai wrote to them "Do not agree to his order. Our neighbour Banu Khuraiza will help you and I will send two thousand men for your help."

It was during this time, the following verse of the Quran was revealed, "Did you see? Munafiq tells his kaafir (disbeliever) brothers that if you go to fight the Muslims, we will join you. And in front of you, we will not heed to anyone's orders and if anyone fights you, we will also come to help you."

(Surah Hashar 11-12).

But what really happened was that Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) reached an agreement with Banu Khuraiza. This clan did not help Banu Nazir and the Munafiqs were not bold enough to come out in the open against Islam. In this manner, the evil intentions of Abdullah Ibn Ubai were ruined.

Abdullah Ibn Ubai had such a destructive quality in him that he would not let go a single opportunity against Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) or the Muslims. He just had one desire, which was to finish the spirit of Islam. For that, he would conspire with the rejecters of faith on one hand and on the other hand would try to spread unrest among the Muslims too.

Once, there was a fight between a Muhajir (one who migrated from Makka to Madinah) and an Ansaar(one who was a dweller of Madinah) regarding bringing water from a spring, but some mature people came and resolved it. When Abdullah Ibn Ubai heard of this (despite the issue being resolved) he went to the Ansaar and told him, "You have dug your own grave. You have

favoured the Muhajireen unnecessarily to such an extent that he is now attacking you. Don't let this opportunity go from your hands now, stop helping him and he will leave this place on his own."

The people went and informed the Prophet (peace be upon him) about this incident. Hazrat (RAA) was also present. He became red with fury. He asked the Prophet (peace be upon him) to command him cut the munafiq's neck. But the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "would you like a discussion about how Muhammed (peace be upon him) kills his companions"? This meant that the Prophet (peace be upon him) did not like his decision of cutting Abdullah Ibn Ubai's neck.

It was strange but true that Abdullah Ibn Ubai was a Munafiq who was the sworn enemy of Islam, but his son whose name was also Abdullah was an ardent follower of Islam. Everyone had heard about Prophet Muhammed's (peace be upon him) anger over Abdullah Ibn Ubai's misdeeds which had given rise to the news that Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) would soon issue orders to kill him. When Abdullah heard this, he came to Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) and said, "The world knows that I am dedicated to serving my father, but if it is your wish, then order me and I will cut his head and bring it to you. It should not be so that you command someone else to do it, and out of honour and love for my father, I will kill the one who kills him." Hearing this, Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) said, Be assured, I will not order for his death, but will treat him justly."

On another occasion, the Munafiq attacked the self- respect and honour of the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him). He had the audacity of accusing Hazrat Ayesha (may Allah be pleased with him).

Hazrat Ayesha (peace be upon her), was the daughter of Islam's prominent figure, Hazrat Abubakr Siddiqui (peace be upon her) and the beloved wife of Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him). Abdullah Ibn Ubai's plot was to create such a situation that would create a split between Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) and Ayesha (peace be upon her). If this happened, there would be a disagreement between the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) and Abubakr (may Allah be pleased with him), which would lead to a separation between the two prominent figures of Islam. But Allah did not let his plan succeed. Verses were revealed by Allah in the Holy Quran which safeguarded her modesty and purity and thus disgraced the leader of the Munafiqs once again. In this regard too, Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) did not say anything to him, but left him to the justice of Allah.

All praise to the Last prophet of Allah, Muhammed (peace be upon him) and his generosity. When this Munafiqin, Abdullah Ibn Ubai who was the sworn enemy of Islam and Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) all his life and was always ready to attack his self-respect, died, his son Abdullah called on

the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) to read his janaaza salah (funeral prayers). Not only did Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) lead the prayers but also gave his own cloth (shirt) for the funeral.

Seeing this, everyone was surprised. Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) could not contain his curiosity and asked, 'Oh Rasulallah (Prophet of Allah). You read his funeral salah when he did this and that." Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) tried to brush off his query by simply saying, "Oh, go away Umar." But when Umar insisted, he said, "If I was given the right and the knowledge, that by reading it 70 times, he will be granted forgiveness, then I would read it more than that."

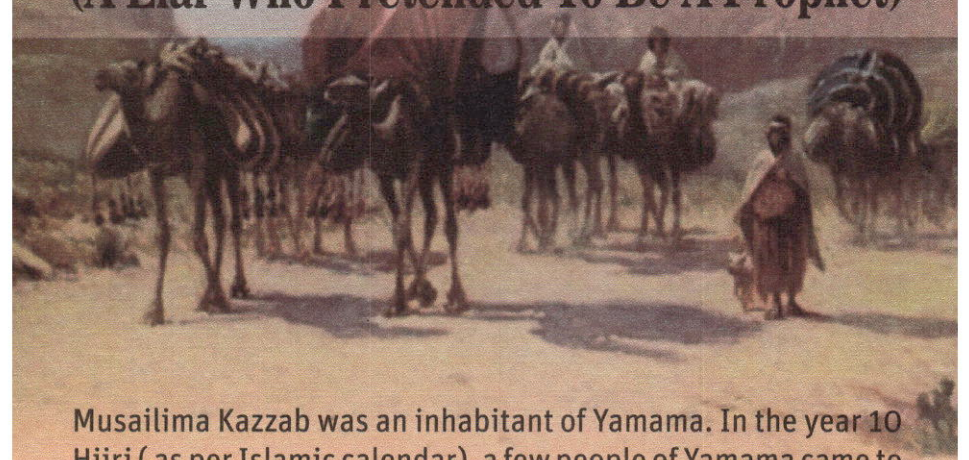
The answer was a clear and satisfying one for Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) and the other sahaabas (followers) that Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) had done this deed for the son of that misfortunate, whose name was also Abdullah.

Which means that, Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) led the prayers to make Abdullah happy, but Abdullah Ibn Ubai will of course be a Jahannami.

Moral

- We should accept Islam and its teachings with a pure heart and not just verbally or for the purpose of some worldly gain.
- Harbouring animosity for Allah Almighty , Allah's Prophet (peace be upon him) and Islam isa complete destruction of our aakhirah (life after death).

Musailima Kazzab
(A Liar Who Pretended To Be A Prophet)



Musailima Kazzab was an inhabitant of Yamama. In the year 10 Hijri (as per Islamic calendar), a few people of Yamama came to the Prophet Mohammad(peace be upon him) and became Muslims. One of them was Musailima Kazzab. It was that era when almost all of Arab was under Islamic rule and the Prophet (peace be upon him) was the head of this Islamic State.

At that time, the people who came to the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him), were given knowledge of Islam and were helped to learn the Quran too. To teach the Quran to the people of Yamama, Prophet Muhammed (Peace be upon him) appointed the famous Qazi (person who recites the Quran with the proper rules of recitations), Hazrat Ubai Ibne Kaab (may Allah be pleased with him).

The people would learn the Quran from him, but Musailima Kazzab would not attend these sessions giving the excuse of taking care of people's luggage. The fortunate people of Yamama would take the opportunity of gaining knowledge of Islam in the company of the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) and the sahaaba but Musailima would be sitting and pondering aimlessly.

He thought that Mohammad (peace be upon him) became a ruler because he was accepted as a Prophet, and said to himself "If I announce that I have been blessed with prophet hood too, then I can also have as many devoted followers as Mohammad (peace be upon him) and will become a ruler like him."

Allah, protect us from the temptations of the shaitaan and the traps laid by him. Musailima became a victim of shaitaan and on returning to his native place after a few days, announced that he had turned a Prophet. Many from his community became his supporters. He wrote a letter to Prophet (peace be upon him) saying, "I share the title of being a Prophet with you. So, half of the kingdom will be of Quraish and the other half will be mine."

Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) replied to his letter thus: "Bismillah hir rahman nir raheem! This letter is from Allah's Rasool (prophet) addressed to Musailima Kazzab. I send my greetings to the ones who will value Allah's guidelines. After this, the land is of Allah, He will inherit it to his beloved follower and it is the best decision for those who fear his disobedience."

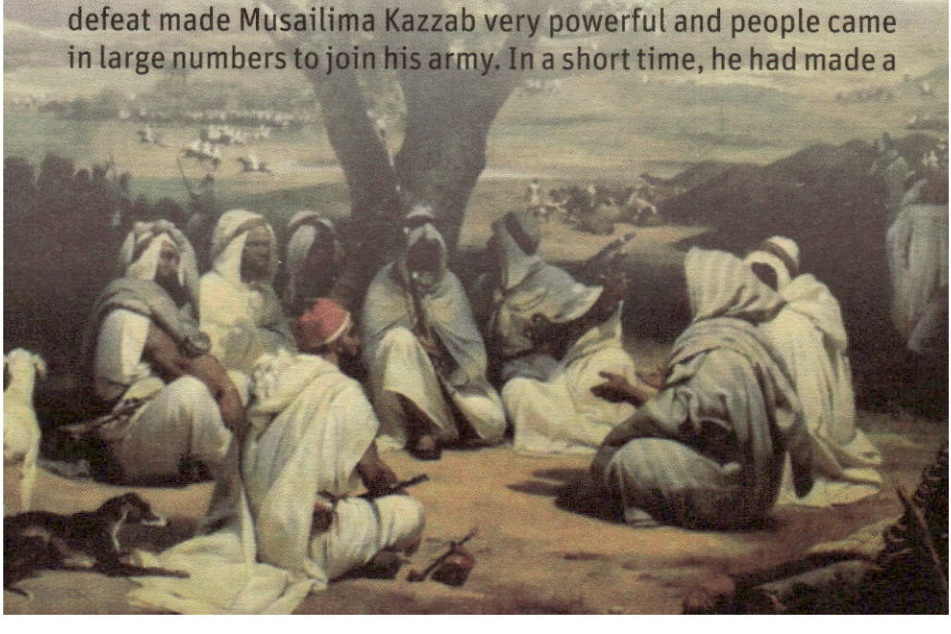
What Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) meant by this is that nobody can become a Prophet without Allah's will and command. Allah selects only pious believers who fear Him as Prophets and nobody has right to declare himself as a Prophet without Allah's command.

After this letter, the Prophet (peace be upon him) expired. Since he had mentioned in his letter the name of Musailima Kazzab, he became famous. The news of Prophet Muhammed's (peace be upon him) death spread far and there was widespread unrest. With the death of the Prophet (Peace be upon Him) those people who were weak in their faith turned away from it and some others refused to give Zakat.

After the Prophet (peace be upon him), Hazrat Abubakr Siddiqui(may Allah be pleased with him) one of his companions became the first Khalifah- leader of Muslim community. Immediately after taking over, he turned his attention towards those who refused to give Zakat and those who had turned Murtad who had turned their backs on Islam after accepting it.

In this regard, Hazrat Akarma Ibn Abuzahal with a few Mujahids ,those who struggle in the cause of Allah and Islam were sent to Musailima Kazzab to go and teach him a lesson.

On reaching Yamama, Hazrat Akarma Ibn Abuzahal attacked him but Musailima Kazzab defeated the Islamic army. This defeat made Musailima Kazzab very powerful and people came in large numbers to join his army. In a short time, he had made a



strong army of 40 thousand soldiers. Many in this army considered Kazzab as a liar and had not brought faith in his claim of being a prophet. But since he was a man from their clan(kabila), they were ready to help him with their wealth and even life.

When Hazrat Abubakr Siddiqui (may Allah be pleased with him) got the news of the defeat of Akarma (Radhi Allahu anhu), he sent Khalid Bin Walid to fight against Musailima Kazzab. Hazrat Khalid Bin Walid collected about 13 thousand Mujahids in his army till he reached Yamama. Musailima was in his garden along with his army too.

When he was informed by his spies about the approaching Islamic army, he immediately commanded his army of around 40,000 soldiers to attack the Islamic army of 13,000 solider. Lashkar-e-Islam (the Islamic army) battled against the disbelievers which took place in the month of Zil Hijjah and year of 11 Hijri, Hazrat Khalid bin Walid defended this attack with great stability and attacked the enemy's army.

This time, the Muslims were in full force. The army of Musailima Kazzab was weakened. They began to return back to the garden. The Muslims broke open the gate and entered the garden. Musailima's people asked him "when will the promise of victory be fulfilled, that your God has made you?" Musailima answered,

"This is not the time to ask such questions. Every man should fight for his kith and kin." Musailima Kazzab then got onto a weapon laden horse and went ahead to show off his power to the army. Seeing him, Khalid Bin Walid began exerting more force. Mujahidins had broken the walls surrounding the garden and had entered the garden.

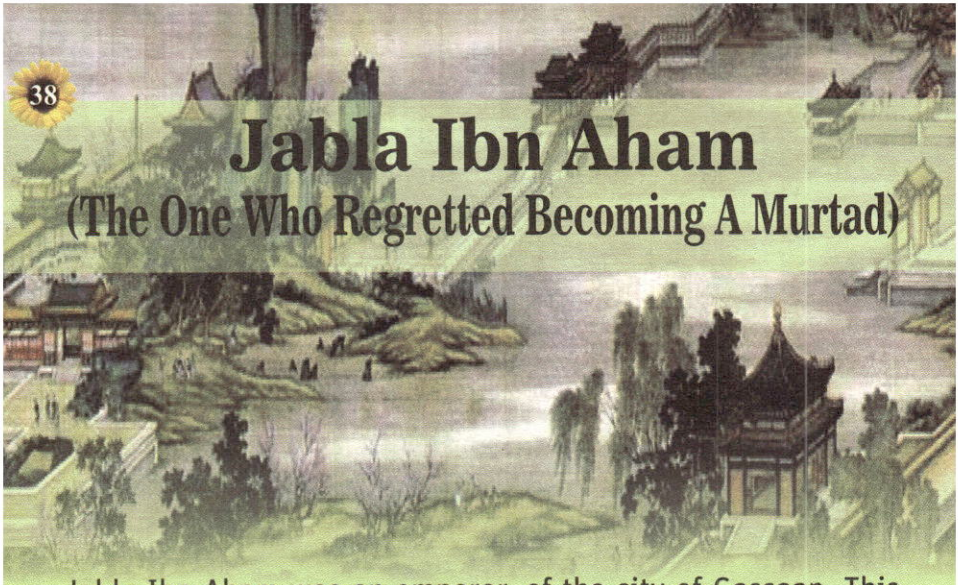
Now, Musailima was certain of his defeat. He wanted to quietly run away but Wahishi (may Allah be pleased with him) saw this and put him to death then and there. With his death, the battlefield was clear and in just a short while, the Islamic army had spread inside the garden. Among all the battles that had taken place between the disbelievers and the Muslims this was the biggest battle. (Fought by Musailima and the Muslims).

This was the fate of Musailima Kazzab's false prophethood. Many in that era wanted to challenge prophethood and become rulers, but Hazrat Abubakr Siddiqui (may Allah be please with him) ruined their plans. Peace and harmony returned to Arab and other places, the law of Allah brought prosperity along with it. But the Murtads had ruined their aakhirah and among them, the name of Musailima Kazzab is the most prominent.

Moral

- Always fear disobeying Allah and keep yourself away from deeds that will displease Allah.
- Jealousy and Anger are few of the many bad qualities of shaitaan.
- To retain your faith, always seek Allah's blessings, for we may not know when our heart and mind will change.

Jabla Ibn Aham
(The One Who Regretted Becoming A Murtad)



Jabla Ibn Aham was an emperor, of the city of Gassaan. This emperor was a big enemy of Islam and huge danger to the Muslim community during that time. However later this emperor finally saw the beauty of Islam and that it is a religion of peace which gives proper guidance to all mankind and teaches to worship only one lord Allah, the Almighty Master. After understanding Islam, he became a muslim.

When he decided to become a Muslim, Hazrat Umar (May Allah be pleased with him) was the Khalifah (leader of Muslim community). The king wrote a letter to the leader of the Muslim community saying, "I wish to join your community and become a Muslim." He handed over the letter to a messenger and directed him to bring its answer back to him as soon as possible. After the messenger left, Ibn Aham began guessing how the Amirul Mominin (leader of the Muslims) would treat the messenger.

He was also wondering if they would reject his letter considering that he was their sworn enemy. The messenger returned with the reply and read it aloud, "You come immediately and become a Muslim. After embracing Islam, you will become my brother and we can share all our happiness and sadness."

Receiving this reply, Jabla Ibn was happy and surprised too. He was surprised because Hazrat Umar (May Allah be pleased with him) did not keep any condition, did not threaten him or accuse him of anything. Instead, he had written words that were full of love and equality. This encouraged him.

Along with 500 of his devoted followers, he started going towards Madinah with complete pomp and splendour.

He stopped at a distance from Madinah and sent a message to Hazrat Umar(may Allah be pleased with him) about his arrival. The people of Madinah were overjoyed when they heard the news of Jabla Ibn Aham's arrival.

They were happy because Jabla of Gassaan, a powerful emperor who was the sworn enemy of Muslims and was a major threat to them was coming to Madina with the intention of embracing Islam. Big and small, everyone lined up the road to see him. Many climbed the rooftops and waited for him to come. Jabla ordered his companions to wear their clothes made out of golden threads and fine silk and adorn it with uniforms embellished with red silk and zardosi work. They were told to wear their silver batches. The horses to be covered with silk and their necks adorned with gold chains.

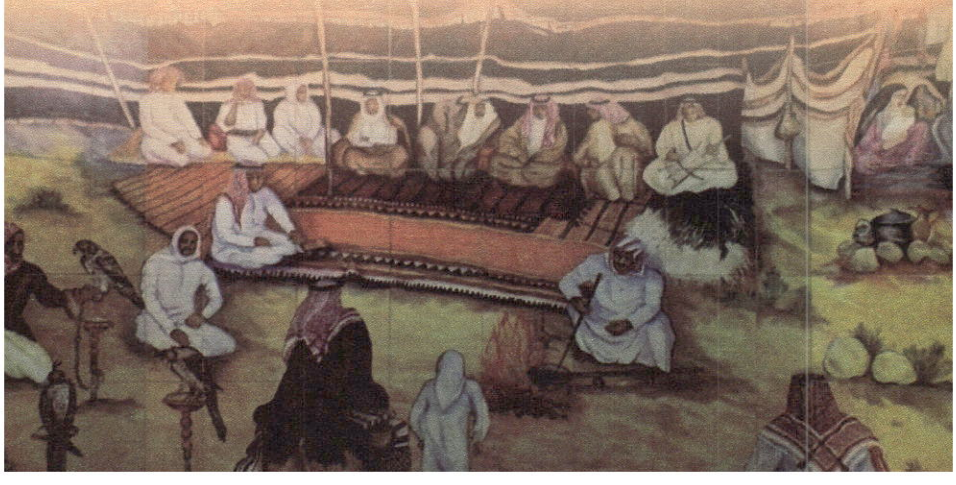
Jabla wore on his head a crown made of pure gold which was studded with precious gems. On either side of the crown were two pigeon-egg sized precious and invaluable pearls.

Dressed, showing off his wealth and pomp, he entered Madinah. Hazrat Umar(May Allah be pleased with him) welcomed him complete respect and honour.

Jabla was in Madinah when it was time for Hajj. Hajj is one of the compulsory acts of worship ordained by Allah on Muslims, wherein the Muslims have to visit Ka'aba (the first Masjid built for the worship of Allah) in the city of Makkah and perform certain rituals.

Hazrat Umar Faruk (May Allah be pleased with him) left for Hajj and took Jabla along with him. But during Hajj, an incident took place that turned the fortunes of Jabla. It so happened that during tawaaf (act of going around the ka'aba), an Arab youth was right behind Jabla. Accidently his leg fell on Jabla's ihram which loosened it and it opened up.. This angered the emperor of Gassann and he gave the youth a hard punch. The punch was so hard that the youth lost his eyesight. During tawaaf, the youth did not say a word.

When Hajj was over and the youth reached his qabilah (clan) and narrated the incident, there was a huge uproar. Some 100 people came to Hazrat Umar (May Allah be pleased with him) and challenged Jabla for this action. Hazrat Umar (May Allah be pleased with him) called on Jabla and questioned him:



Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him): Why did you destroy this youth's eyes?

Jabla: He humiliated me. In a crowd, he embarrassed me.

Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him): The youth has told the entire story. According to him, his leg accidently fell on your ihram. For such a small error, such a big punishment is sheer torture.

Jabla: Just to make a poor man happy, why is this incident being given so much importance?

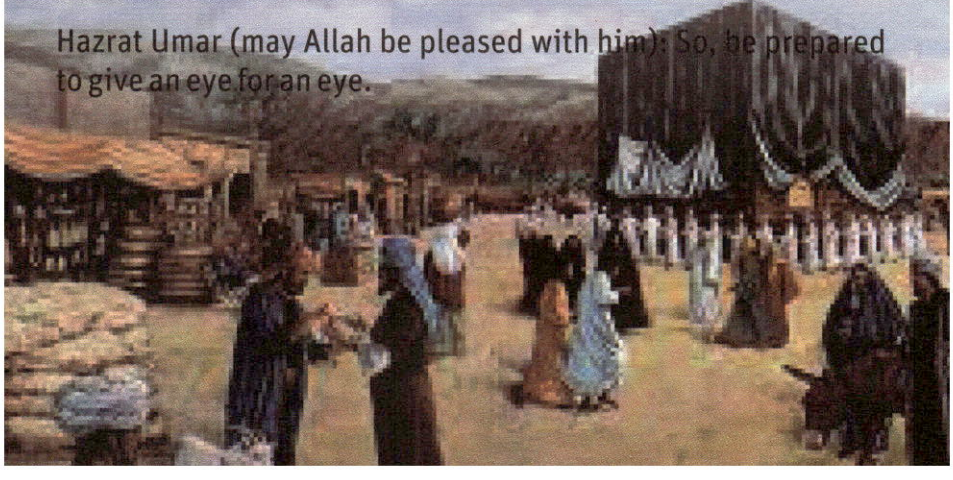
Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him): Islam does not distinguish between the rich and the poor. In Islam, God consciousness and good deeds elevate the status of a man. It is not elevated with regards to wealth, genes, inheritance, colour and beauty.

Jabla: So what do you mean?

Hazrat Umar(may Allah be please with him): Either you apologise to this youth, or give him something to reach an agreement. Otherwise, it is an eye for an eye. That means, you destroyed his eyesight, so your eyesight will be destroyed too.

Jabla: So, should I ask this poor youth for forgiveness, whose blanket too has holes in it? This is not possible for me.

Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him): So, be prepared to give an eye for an eye.



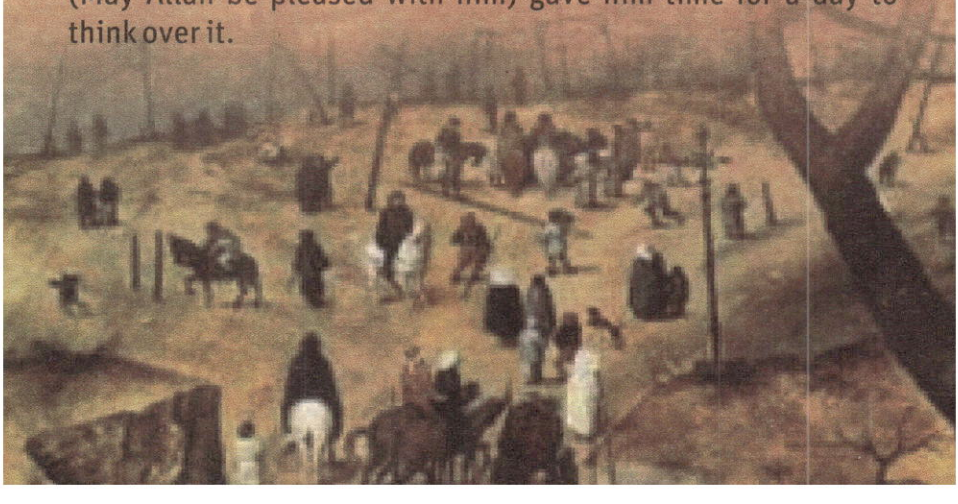
Jabla: I am the emperor of Gassaan. My father was a king and so was my grandfather. He is a poor man. How can his eye be equal to mine? How can my eye be removed in return for his eye?

Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him): I have already told you that in the view of Islam, nobody is big or small, everyone is equal. Don't waste my time. Either you convince the youth or prepare for your punishment.

Jabla: If Islam is such that it favours the lower class people, and does not bother about those who are high in status and does not give them the right to rule, then goodbye to Islam. I am returning back to being a Nasrani (Christian).

Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him): If you turn your back to Islam, then the punishment of a disbeliever will be given to you. I will cut your neck.

It was the for first time that the Emperor of Gassaan realised that he was standing in the court of Islamic law and was talking to the khalifah of the Muslims. The mention of the punishment given to Murtads (one who converted from Islam to another religion) shook him. He understood the seriousness of the issue and said, "Fine. Give me time until tonight to think about it. I will give you an answer tomorrow." Hazrat Umar Faruk (May Allah be pleased with him) gave him time for a day to think over it.



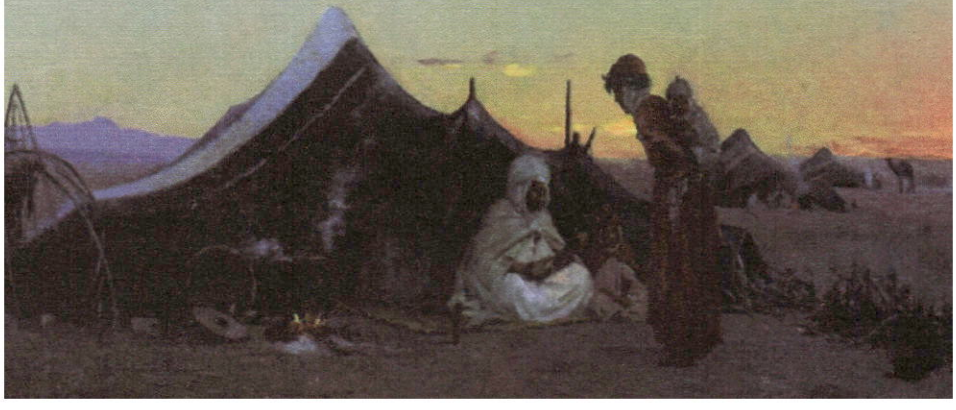
Jabla returned to his camp, and began thinking of ways to escape. Finally, along with his 500 followers, he left Makkah. But instead of going back to Gassaan, he went to Rome which was under the rule of King Harkul.

Harkul welcomed him warmly. He not only gave him a huge palace to live in but a kingdom which was even bigger than Gassaan. Jabla converted to Christianity and began living with even more pomp and splendour than in Gassaan.

Once, a Kaasid (messenger) of Hazrat Umar (May Allah be pleased with him) came to Harkul. This messenger was Hazrat Jussamma. Hazrat Jussamma was in talks with Harkul when the latter said, "Jussamma, have you met your neighbouring king Jabla Ibn Aham?" Jussamma replied, "No. Is he here?" Harkul replied, "Yes, he is here. You must meet him. You will be happy to meet him."

The truth behind suggesting this meeting was that Harkul wanted to impress upon Jussamma (RA) that the person whom you did not honour but rather invited his anger for a small issue is honoured by us and is living here in full honour and luxury.

Harkul sent one man with Hazrat Jussamma (RA) who took him to Jabla's palace. When Jussamma (may Allah be pleased with him) witnessed the splendour of his palace, it somehow eclipsed the splendour of Harkul's kingdom too.



From the entrance right up to Jabla's throne was laid a soft, velvet carpet in which one's leg could almost dig into the ground. In the front side of the white-stone throne were laid out some gold chairs. One of the chairs was adorned with gems and other precious stones. . On both sides of the throne, there were beautiful maids who were wearing silken costumes and holding silver boxes in their hands. Beautiful curtains were hanging from all sides and the fragrance of perfume emanated in the air.

When Jabla saw Hazrat Jusamma (RA) coming towards him, he stood up and greeted him warmly. He then seated him on a chair beside him and their conversation was as follows:
Jabla: Say, Jusamma, how are you?

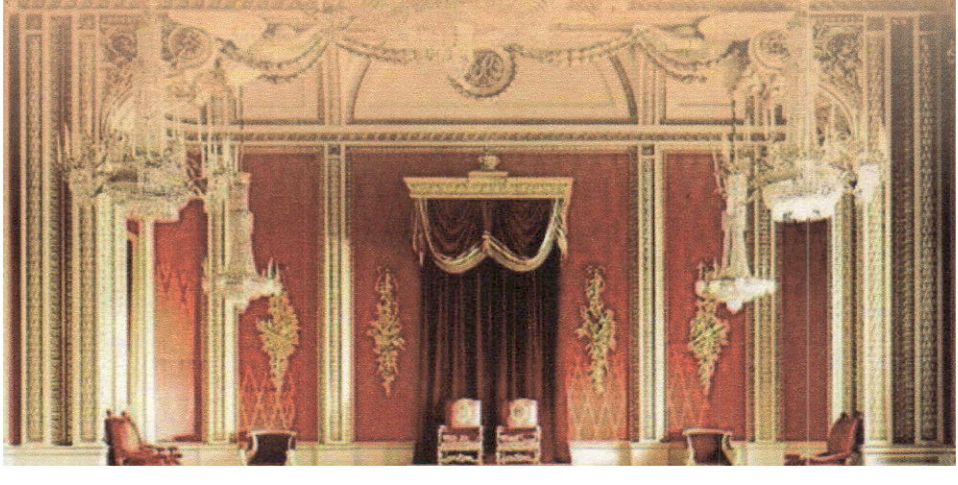
Jusamma: Alhamdulillah (the grace of Allah is on us).

Jabla: What is the state of the Muslims?

Jusamma: Good and by Allah's grace, their population is growing by leaps and bounds.

Jabla: And is Umar (May Allah be pleased with him) still alive?

Jusamma: By God's grace, the leader of our community is happy and healthy. Infact, it was Umar (May Allah be pleased with him) who sent me to Harkul as his messenger.



Hearing about Umar's (May Allah be pleased with him) well-being, there was some sadness on Jabla's face. He waited for a brief moment. In the meanwhile, Hazrat Jussamma's (may Allah be pleased with him) sight fell on the golden chair, on which he was seated. At once, he sat up uttering 'Lahaulwalakuwata" and went and sat on an ordinary seat. When Jabla asked him the reason for this, he said, "Our prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) has prohibited us from sitting on gold and silver chairs".

When Hazrat Jussamma(RA) uttered the name of Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him), Jabla quietly said 'peace be upon him' under his breath, but Hazrat Jussamma (may Allah be pleased with him) heard it. He understood that the effect of Islam was not completely wiped out from his heart. So, he again invited him to return to Islam. He said, "Jabla, after turning towards Islam and helping to spread it, why did you convert to Christianity? I am advising you as a friend to accept Islam again."

Hearing this, Jabla took a deep breath and asked, "Jussamma, after doing so many misdeeds, can I still become a Muslim? Jussamma, tell me the truth. Will your religion accept a dirty man like me again? No Jussamma! This looks very difficult now."

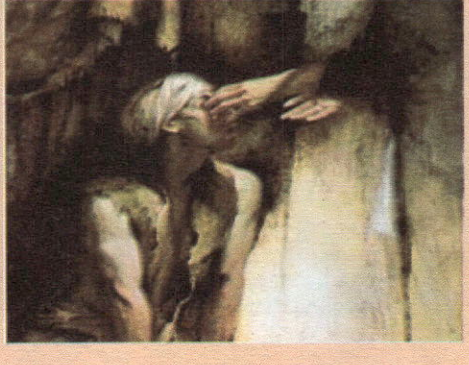
Hazrat Jussamma (RA) understood from his talks that despite turning away from Islam and acquiring more pomp and splendour, he was still unhappy from inside. He felt that, with some advice, he can again help him revert to Islam. So, he tried to reason with

him, "Jabla, don't be kiddish. , Even Ashab Ibn Kais had turned a disbeliever like you. He had even waged a war against Muslims. But still, when he accepted Islam, Hazrat Abubakr Siddique (may Allah be pleased with him) not only forgave him for all his misdeeds but also got his sister Ume Fazda married to him. Oh Jabla! Don't pride about all the pomp and splendour of this world. All this is a fantasy.

In this manner, Hazrat Jussamma (may Allah be pleased with him) kept advising him. Jabla heard him for a long time and then said, "Jussamma! If I can become a Muslim, I will come back to Islam, but I have two conditions."

"What's that?" Hazrat Jussamma (may Allah be pleased with him) asked immediately. He replied, "My first condition is that Hazrat Umar (RA) should get his daughter married to me and my second condition is that after him, I am declared the next Khalifah ."

The real reason behind these conditions was that Jabla had not forgotten the punishment pronounced on him when he had destroyed the youth's eye. He was scared that the case might be reopened. He wanted to safeguard himself by getting these conditions fulfilled. It would have been better if the misfortunate had mentioned the reason behind these conditions. How would Hazrat Jussamma (RA) know what was going on in his head?



He heard his conditions and answered, "I cannot promise more than what I am entitled to. By convincing Amirul Mominin, I can get you married to Amirul Mominin's daughter but as far as making you the

religious head is concerned, that is a different issue. I cannot take any responsibility for that."

"Which means, it is difficult" were the words that came out of Jabla's mouth. He hosted Hazrat Jussamma (may Allah be pleased with him) with utmost pomp. While bidding him farewell, he gave several gifts and one thousand gold coins and said, "These gifts and gold coins are from me for Hazrat Hassan Bin Saabit (may Allah be pleased with him). Please give this to him as well as my salaam (greetings)".

Saying this, he bid farewell to Hazrat Jussamma (may Allah be pleased with him).

When Jussamma(RA) left Rome and reached Madinah, he narrated everything to Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him). He also told him that how desperate Jabla was to become a Muslim again and also about his two conditions. Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) said, "Jussamma, you should have accepted both his conditions. After all, all that happens is as per Allah Almighty's wishes. If we reject his conditions, what will happen? We do not know when death will come upon us. If one of Allah Almighty's creations is protected from Allah Almighty's wrath and we get some blessings in that regard, than that will suffice for us."

Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) sent one messenger to Harkul. He told the messenger to first go to Jabla and accept his conditions, convert him to Islam and bring him to Madinah.

When the messenger reached Rome, he saw that from the gates of the city, there was a funeral passing with much pomp. Many eminent people were part of the funeral procession and the arrangements made looked as though made by officials of the kingdom. When the messenger inquired, "Whose funeral is this?" he got the answer, "Jabla Ibn Aham, the king of Gassaan."

"Inna lillahi wa inna illaihi raajihun," recited the messenger and feeling remorse for Jabla's misfortune, he just stood still in bereavement.

Moral

The story of the misfortunate Emperor of Gassaan came to an end but sadly he remained an unbeliever. We learn from this episode that:

- The pride of his wealth and status did not allow him to remain steadfast in his faith and he turned to his old religion, leaving Islam.
- After turning a disbeliever, he lost peace of mind and despite acquiring all the riches of the world, he could not attain 'real happiness'.
- Delay in returning back to Islam gave him a death of a non believer.
- We should accept Islam as our way of life without conditions and accept it with pure heart and be ready for any kind of sacrifice which Allah Almighty commands from us.

Salba Bin Haatib
(One Who Loved Worldly Things)

After Allah Almighty appointed our beloved Prophet, Mohammad (Peace be upon him) as Prophet, He preached Islam in the city of Makkah. When some people of Makkah started troubling him and his companions, the Prophet (Peace be upon him) and his companions migrated to the city of Madinah as per Allah's orders.

The Prophet (Peace be upon him) preached Islam in Madinah too. Because of the Prophets (Peace be upon him) teachings many people accepted Islam and became Muslims. Some became Momins (true believers). Some turned to be Murtads (those who turned against Islam's principles and some were Munafiqs (those who harboured animosity against Islam).

All the companions of the Prophet (Peace be upon him) were Momins and followed all His instructions, whether they liked it or not. Even if they were at a loss, they used to accept the Instructions of the Prophet (Peace be upon him) as it was a command from Allah Almighty.

In the city of Madinah there was a man named Salba bin Haatib, who too embraced Islam and became Muslim. He was staying with all the other momins. Salba lived in such pious environment. He lived with the sahabas and Prophet (Peace be

upon him) company. He obtained the best of the knowledge from these scholars but unfortunately, his heart was desirous of worldly things like money, property, etc. His love for wealth and prosperity was more than his love for Allah Almighty, Islam and the Prophet (peace be upon him). Therefore he became a misfortunate.

He had also seen that when the Prophet (Peace be upon him) prayed in favour of someone, the prayer was always accepted. An idea struck his mind and his face lit up. He became very happy and thought of asking the Prophet (Peace be upon him) for praying for him. He went to the Prophet (Peace be upon him) and said "Oh Rasulallah (Prophet of Allah), Pray for me that I get a lot of wealth." The Prophet (Peace be upon him) understood his wrong intentions and said to him "Pity on your condition Salba. Don't you want to be like me who can spend his life with what you have and have patience and faith in Allah Almighty? If I wish I can make the mountains move as per my instructions by the order of Allah Almighty."

With this statement the Prophet (Peace be upon him) made it clear to Salba that though he can do impossible things possible by the power of his dua, Salba should not ask for something which will make him repent in future. More money will put more responsibilities on him and he will not be able to give proper time to the worship of Allah Almighty, doing good acts and helping others. This will spoil his aakhirah and he will fail in his test of this world. Those who have trust in Allah Almighty are satisfied by whatever little Allah Almighty has given them.

But Salba did not listen to the Prophet (Peace be upon him) and started arguing with the Prophet (Peace be upon him). He said "O Prophet of Allah, please pray for me. I swear by that one Lord who has sent you as a true Prophet that if I get more wealth, I will not stop following Allah Almighty orders. I will fulfil rights of Allah Almighty by Worshiping Allah Almighty and serving people and donating in the way of Allah Almighty.

The Prophet (Peace be upon him) tried to convince him a lot. He told Salba "Behold! The little money that you have is much better than enormous wealth which will not allow you to thank Allah Almighty.

What the Prophet (Peace be upon him) meant by this was that if he gets more wealth he will be engrossed in dealing with that wealth and hence he will not get time to thank and Worship Allah Almighty.

But Salba was adamant and he just wanted his wish to be fulfilled. He wanted more money. The devil had taken control of his mind. He requested very hard to the Prophet (Peace be upon him) and at last got his wish fulfilled. The Prophet (Peace be upon him) prayed for him to get more wealth.

Salba returned home happily. Salba had some cattle and goats. The same year, Salba acquired a huge herd of cattle and goats.

He was happy that he was finally getting wealthy but his destiny was cursing him since it was this wealth that would eventually destroy him.

To maintain this huge herd, Salba needed a charagah (land meant for grazing) which was available outside the city of Madinah. So he made arrangements to keep his herd there.

Since he had to leave Madinah and also look after his herd, he could not reach the Masjid i:e Masjid-e-Nabvi for Isha salah. He would pray there in the day but for the night (Isha) prayers, he would pray alone near the Charagah.

Prophet Muhammed (Peace be upon him) had prayed for his animals. The effects of his prayers were such that by next year itself, big and small animals had multiplied in such a manner that now the charagah could not suffice for them. Now, he took a bigger place which was further away from Madinah and shifted his herd there. Consequently, he could not come to Masjid-e-nabvi not just for the night prayers but also for the day time prayers.

People would see him during the Friday salah but for a short while. He uses to pray and leave immediately. But, how could he sustain for long? Now, his animals had increased to such an extent that maintaining them had become very important. This need slowly but surely ended his Friday trips to Madinah too. Now, this misfortunate had become distant from the prophet's (Peace be upon him) influence.

His constant absence made the Prophet (Peace be upon him) inquire about his status from his companions one day. The companion said "Prophet Muhammed (Peace be upon him), in order to maintain his growing herd, Salba has gone so far, that he cannot come back. Hearing this, Prophet Muhammed (Peace be upon him) uttered the same words that he had told Salba, "It is a pity Salba Bin Haatib, to see you in this state."

After some time, the ritual of Zakat (Charity) became mandatory on the Muslims. Zakat is a type of charity which every Muslim has to give to the poor or for some better cause from his earnings.

Prophet Muhammed (Peace be upon him) appointed two elderly gentlemen to collect the Zakat. These two gentlemen went to Salba to collect Zakat from him. Seeing his wealth go out of his hand, Salba got scared and asked, "Have you brought a written order from the Prophet (Peace be upon him) or should I just hand it over to you believing what you say."

It was indeed unfortunate that Salba had changed. He had no trust in the gentlemen. When both the elderly men showed him the order, the misfortunate man said, "This is jaziya (a security money that was collected from non-muslims in that time)." Then he thought awhile and said, "Ok, when you are returning after having collected Zakat from everyone else, you can take it from me."

Did you see? Salba had turned into such a greedy man who loved his wealth so dearly that it was hard for him to give it in charity.

When both the elderly gentlemen came back to him after collecting Zakat from everywhere, he again repeated his earlier statements, "this is Jaziya and I am a Muslim. You please leave. I will think and give you an answer."

Everyone knows that when a greedy man is asked to give charity, he either remains silent or gives some excuse so that his wealth does not go out of his hands. Salba's excuse was a proof that he too didn't want to give his wealth in charity.

Both the elderly gentlemen felt bad about Salba's excuse and went back. When the Prophet (Peace be upon him) came to know this he said "it is indeed an unfortunate state for Salba".

After this incident, the following verses of the Quran were revealed,
"And then there will be some people among them, who had promised the Almighty that if He granted us wealth, then we will spend in his way and do charity. But when Allah granted them this favour, then they started acting miserly and turned their back on Allah's commands and their own commitment."
Chapter 9 Verse No. 75

Salba had made a similar promise and commitment. Misfortunate When the Prophet (Peace be upon him) told this Aayat to the Sahaba's, there were several relatives of Salba present. When they went and told the entire episode to him, Salba realised his

mistake. He was scared that if the Prophet (Peace be upon him) said any bad thing about him, then he would be destroyed in this world and his aakhirah would be ruined too. He took the Zakat money and ran to the Prophet (Peace be upon him). But on sighting him the Prophet (Peace be upon him) said, "I have been prohibited to take Zakat from you by Allah Almighty."

Hearing this, he felt dejected and started to leave. When he was leaving, the Prophet (Peace be upon him) looked at him and said, "This is the result of your stubbornness and greed. Had I not stopped you?"

Misfortunate Salba returned in a sad state .After Prophet Muhammed, Abu bakar Siddiqui (may Allah be pleased with her) became the Khalifah. Salba came to him too with Zakat but Hazrat Siddiqui (may Allah be pleased with him) too refused to take it. When Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) became Khalifah, Salba came to him too, but again Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) refused to take the Zakat.

This is the story of this misfortunate.
His story is so terrifying that we pray to Allah Almighty that 'Almighty, bestow upon us the sense to fulfil the guidance given to us through our Prophet (Peace be upon him),and we do not hesitate to spend the our wealth. Also, let not Shaitaan misguide us and we end up in the state as Salba was.

"Rabbana aatina fidduniya hasanatan wa fil aakhirati hasanataun wa kina azabannar."

"O Allah! Bestow upon us favours of this world as well as of the hereafter and save us from torment of Hell fire."

The Last Word

These are the stories with lessons in them, which when read, can scare you off. Did you read them? Shaitaan showed his arrogant acts one after another and did not hesitate to tell Allah Almighty) that he will attack Human beings from all sides. He will trap man into the web of desires. Shaitaan is waiting anxiously. He is showing human beings a beautiful picture and creating new desires in him. With his tricks, if he can distract the faithful even for some time, he makes sure to drown him completely. He has ruined many people—like destroying the sons of Prophets, and people with immense knowledge too. There were those faithful slaves of Allah Almighty too whom he trapped, and they forgot their Master. Also, those who understood the spirit of Islam and came forward to accept it willingly also came under his influence.
"Inna lillahi wa inna ilahi rajioon".
"Surely we belong to Allah and to him we shall return."

If one wants to protect himself from the clutches of Shaitaan, then the solution is provided in the Quran. When accepting the open challenge of Shaitaan, Allah Almighty had said that the man who remembers me, abides by my commands and who follows my instructions, you cannot do any harm to him.

Those who follow Shaitaan should not forget that their ultimate Master is Allah Almighty. Do not boast. Fear the day of judgement. Follow the guidance prescribed by the Prophet (Peace be upon him). Always pray to Allah Almighty for the sustenance of his faith and the prosperity of Islam. Do not avoid following Allah's Almighty instructions. Prayers, seeking forgiveness and reading the Istegfar are the strongest weapons that every Muslim can use to defeat Shaitaan. Insha Allah , all this will keep him safeguarded. Also, keep referring to such stories as mentioned in this book. Such stories help in bringing about positive changes. I would like to request all those who read this book, that when they pray to Allah Almighty, they do not forget to pray for the one who collected these stories for you. Also pray for me that he bestows on me the ability to do good work and brings me death with my faith intact.

"Fatirassamawati wal ardh. Anta waliyyi fidduniya wal aakhirati, tawaffani musliman wa al hikni bisswalihin"
Taalib - e - dua
Ma'el Khairabadi